

The Southeast News

OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

VOLUME VI, NUMBER 11

SEPTEMBER 1958



SOUTHEAST CONVENTION
BOARD MEETING

SUMMER EVENTS



MRS. WALTER A. GRAHAM
AND MRS. R. J. JONES OF WALES



SOUTHERN UNION
WORK CAMP



SOUTHEAST CONVENTION
GROUP AT PURDUE



ALABAMA - N. W. FLORIDA
SUMMER CONFERENCE

PEOPLE --- CHURCHES --- EVENTS

East Tallassee Church Has Busy Schedule

The East Tallassee Congregational Christian Church is not one of the churches that has taken a vacation this summer. Since moving into the new church last November, each organization has been busy within its self carrying on the work.

The Sunday School, under the leadership of the Superintendent, Mr. Bobby J. Pemberton and Mr. Edward H. Thrash, has moved into the educational building. There are seven graded classes, and a well-equipped nursery, where an all-round program can be carried out, using the Pilgrim Press materials that are so helpful.

The Woman's Fellowship has been busy with its own work. This past year they have entertained many important visitors at the church, including the Mid-West Tour and the National Secretary, Miss Lillian Gregory. They carry on a full program in the community, being the sponsors of the 65 Plus Club, which has 135 members, and is one of their best projects for the community.

Some of the women appeared on the WSFA-TV station in Montgomery, Ala., to tell of this project. They also furnished and equipped the new church kitchen, this being paid for by each of the women giving 25c per week. They are looking forward to a good year under the leadership of the new officers: Pres., Miss Willa Durden; Treas., Mrs. Westley Griggs; Vice-Pres., Mrs. Joyce Miller; Sec., Mrs. Marie Cochran. One of the yearly projects is to keep the church building clean and orderly.

The Layman's Fellowship has spent much of their time finishing the new building. They have given help in money and labor for the Field House at Southern Union College. One of the highlights of the year was a spend-the-night party at the Boy Scout camp on Lake Martin. 17 members enjoyed this occasion, and it was voted to make it an annual affair.

They are looking forward to entertaining the laymen of the East and Central Associations this month. Their officers are Pres., Mr. Ralph Hammock; Vice-Pres., Mr. Bobby J. Pemberton; Sec., Edward Thrash; Treas., Charles

Miller.

They are responsible for keeping the church ground trim and clean. Many mornings at five o'clock, you may find some of them mowing the grass. The Pilgrim Fellowship took as one of its projects to buy a Coke machine. It is now installed and the profits are used to help pay for it. When it is paid for they hope to use the profit. To help in other ways, they had two girls attend summer camp at Southern Union College. They are meeting this Sunday after the night church service to help build the attendance at the church and the Fellowship. They will lose several of their members who will be attending college this Fall. The officers are: Pres., Janice Ballard; Vice-Pres., Barbara Fralic.; Sec. and Treas., Edwina Parker. The leaders are Miss Willa Durden and Mrs. Miriam Fralic.

The two choirs have been busy helping to carry on the worship program. The adult choir, under the leadership of Mr. Churchel Ledbetter and organist, Mrs. Virginia Fralic, has spent many hours preparing for the programs. They enjoyed a picnic at Lake Martin and visited the Mount Olive Church during their revival.

The Junior Choir, under the leadership of Mrs. Jettie Logan and Mrs. Betty Long, and pianist, Miss Pat Scroggins, has been busy this summer. They have visited several of the rural churches, presenting a song service.

The Junior Pilgrim Fellowship has been organized this last year and already it is one of the active groups of the church. The leaders are Mrs. Churchel Ledbetter, Mrs. Virginia Fralic, and Miss Mary Ann Pemberton.

The pastor, the Rev. Herbert Long, truly has a full-time job, carrying on the work of the church and on the field. He is also active in many of the community groups, and an officer in the Southeast Convention. The East Tallassee Church is proud of the fact that they not only carry a full-time program, but that they also have as many or more officers in the State and Convention work than any other church throughout the Convention. Their leaders are also found in all of the community clubs and groups in Tallassee.

Plans are now being made for the church to entertain the East Alabama

A Manual For Christian Social Action

At last it is out — the long promised MANUAL FOR CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION. Ever since the organization of the Council for Christian Social Action on June 27, 1957, the Council members and staff have been conscious of the need for a basic guide for local churches that wish to know what Christian social action is or how to develop a more effective social witness. Though both the Congregational Christian and the Evangelical Reformed social action agencies had such handbooks, something new and better was needed — something that was up to date, something that reflected the situation and met the need of the United Church.

The Manual, 16 pages, size 8½ x 11 inches, is attractively illustrated by Chester Tanaka, art consultant for Social Action magazine. It contains chapters, none more than three pages and most of them less, on the meaning of Christian Social Action, issues that call for social action, goals for Christian social action, and resources. There are helpful sections on "Who Carries Responsibility?" and "Discover Potential Leaders."

Single copies at twenty cents, ten or more at fifteen cents each, may be secured from either New York or the Cleveland office of the Council.

and West Georgia Laymen's Fellowship in August. The Central Association meeting in October and a committee has already been appointed to work on the plans for the Southeast Convention which will meet here in March 1959.

The church is organized with the Church Board being composed of a member from each of the organizations and the church officers.

One of the most active committees is the Christian Education. They have spent much time this year studying the best materials for the church work and promoted the Vacation Bible School which was very successful. They have five members who are planning to attend the Christian Education National meeting in Indiana in August. Mrs. Marie Cochran is chairman of this committee.

PEOPLE --- CHURCHES --- EVENTS

Elder Church Reports Activities Of Summer

An improvement in attendance has been noticeable at Elder during the past summer months.

The Vacation Bible School was held the last week of June, with an enrollment of 36. Louise Duck was in charge with others of the church helping out. Mrs. Barret Ingram taught the beginners. They enjoyed learning Bible stories, making clothespin dolls, books and other things. The Primary group was taught by Sue Brasell. They made a book of favorite Bible verses, and went on a hike. Among the other things they made were waste paper baskets for some of the Sunday School rooms and many pot holder racks for mother.

The Juniors and Junior Highs were taught by Miss Louise Duck and Mrs. Woodroe Washburn. The Juniors studied "Meet Your Neighbors", and made a bookcase for the church and waste baskets for part of the class rooms. The Junior High group studied "God's World and Ours". They made a table for the Beginners' Sunday School room and a bulletin board for each of the class rooms.

In the Spring, the church lawn was sodded with Bermuda grass. This has added much to the appearance of the church grounds. New doorsteps have been built to two side doors and a cement walk made from the front steps to the road.

On Friday nights throughout the summer, the children and young people, as well as the adults, have been enjoying meeting at the church and singing.

Elder Community has been proud of the young boys' baseball team this summer. The boys from nine through sixteen, under the leadership of Barret Ingram, have been playing throughout the summer. They have played teams from the adjoining communities. (This has provided a lot of wholesome recreation for them.)

Every one enjoyed having as guest minister, during the recent revival, the Rev. Olin Sheppard of Roanoke. Two members were received by letter during the week.

The Pilgrim Fellowship has been re-

Southern Union Work Camp

For two weeks this summer sixteen young people from all over the nation participated in a Work Camp on the campus of The Southern Union College.

Rev. and Mrs. Clarence W. Baldwin, Pilgrim Congregational Church, Birmingham, Ala., were the leaders of the camp. Prof. Carl Landes of the college faculty worked with the group. Miss Annie Campbell was on hand to help where needed.

According to reports received from the camp the following projects were completed:

1. Mixed concrete and poured 300' of walkway 36" wide.
2. Painted shop building approximately 40' x 50' — two coats.
3. Painted floors in four class rooms and library.
4. Painted walls in ladies' rest room, College Hall.
5. Worked on school catalogue.
6. Dug drainage ditch.
7. Wheelbarrowed (one ton?) gravel into new field house.
8. Helped to shingle the new field house roof.

organized with Barret Ingram as adult adviser. Kenny Burnett is President, Vicki Young, Secretary, and Gary Patterson is reporter. Already they have a number of projects under way. (One is the completion of the church basement. They have already begun work on this.)

HERE AND THERE

Rev. and Mrs. Harold Henderson and children of Nashville, Tenn., will be moving to the Daisy-Soddy, Tenn., Parish this month. Mr. Henderson is a graduate of Vanderbilt Divinity School and has been serving as Interim Pastor at Pleasant Hill, Tenn.

* * * *

Rev. and Mrs. William M. McCullars and family have left the Hunt Memorial Church, Alexander City, and now are at the Oak Grove Church, Pine Mountain, Ga.

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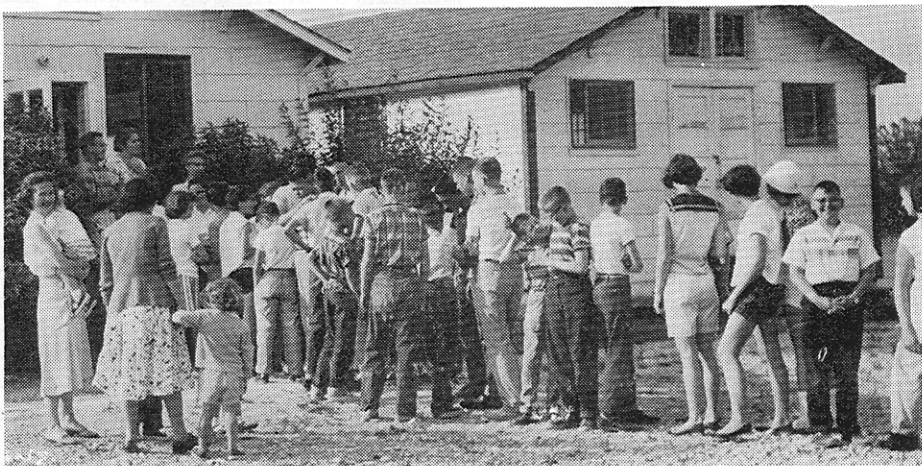
Mrs. E. L. Askren, Atlanta, Mrs. W. Raymond Berry, LaGrange, Miss Dora Brackin, Headland, Mrs. Watt Kelly, LaGrange, Miss Mary Pemberton, Mrs. Virginia Fralic, Mrs. Herbert Long, and Mr. Bobby Pemberton, all of East Tallassee, and Rev. Annie R. Campbell attended the Christian Education Institute at Purdue University in August.

* * * *

Rev. Wesley W. Martin, representative of the Presbyterian Ministers Fund, has been conducting services for the Meansville Church while the pastor, Rev. Thomas Isbell, has been involved in summer military service at Camp LeJeune, N. C.

* * * *

Rev. Dick Shaw, a student at Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Ga., has been serving the Oxford, Sardis Church during the summer months.



KENTUCKY - TENNESSEE SUMMER CONFERENCE

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Superintendent's Corner

During the past few weeks every church pastor has received from The Missions Council of our Congregational Christian Churches the materials prepared for use in "OUR CHRISTIAN ENLISTMENT."

These are the materials, of course, for an Every Member Canvass for the support of the church budget and for a canvass of the membership of the church to help put people to work in the church and its organizations in the places in which they are interested and for which they have the necessary qualifications.

I hope that every church will make good use of these materials. Those churches which are not in the habit of conducting an annual every member canvass should study the materials to see the advantages of such a program. The churches that regularly conduct such a program should study the materials in order to improve their program.

Remember — you have the materials for "OUR CHRISTIAN ENLISTMENT." Please use them!

The Superintendent's Schedule

September 16 — Board of Directors
September 19 — Nashville
September 22-24 — Southern Superintendents, Franklinton Center
September 25 — Knoxville
October 4-18 — Annual Association and Conference Meetings

CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION FUND CAMPAIGN VOTED

A seven and one-half million dollar campaign to meet the denomination's needs and opportunities in the field of Christian Higher Education was voted by the delegates to the General Council in Boston this summer.

This campaign has the largest monetary goal of any undertaking in the history of the Congregational Christian Churches.

Chosen to direct the churches in this important venture is Dr. Harold T. Janes, formerly pastor of First Central Congregational Church, Omaha, Nebraska. He will be assisted by regional representatives to be appointed and by volunteer organizations within the various conferences and conventions.

According to the plans suggested to the delegates, the monies raised will be divided between the American Board, the Board of Home Missions and the various participating confer-

ences and conventions.

The American Board is to receive \$3,000,000, of which \$1,500,000 will be used for direct aid to overseas educational institutions. The remainder will be used for scholarships, theological education, student work-campus-ministries and similar activities.

The Board of Home Missions is to receive \$3,000,000 and will use it in a similar fashion, with \$1,300,000 going for direct aid to institutions and \$1,000,000 for campus ministries and student work.

\$1,500,000 will be returned to the various conferences and conventions participating in the campaign to be used for special concerns within their areas.

The whole project is being studied by the Board of Directors of the Convention to determine how the churches of the southeast can best participate.

Christian Higher Education Resolution

Assembled in the city of Boston where our Congregational fathers authorized the establishment of America's first institution of higher education "to advance learning and perpetuate it to posterity", mindful of the sons and daughters of the Pilgrims and Puritans, who have given sacrificially of their spiritual, intellectual and material resources so that citizens of this nation, and of every nation, might receive an education which truly liberates, and concerned over the use of education in the contemporary world for the enslavement rather than the freeing of men.

BE IT RESOLVED that the General Council of Congregational Christian churches reaffirm actions previously taken at New Haven and Omaha, and designate the biennium of 1958 to 1960 as a time to give special emphasis to the cause of higher education, in the belief that highly trained minds dedicated to the glory of God and the service of man will be more useful instruments for the redemption of our culture and our times; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we approve the creation of a Christian

Higher Education Fund by American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions and the Board of Home Missions, and the raising of a minimum of \$7,500.00 for this fund to be expanded by the boards and conferences to strengthen and multiply our present ministries on the campuses of colleges and universities, to enlarge our resources for theological education, to improve the quality of teaching in institutions of higher learning, to increase the number of student scholarships and to help provide more adequate college and seminary facilities; and

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon the leaders of our churches to share in conferences of ministers and laymen to be held during the fall of 1958, that teams of ministers, laymen, and laywomen be formed to visit each church in behalf of the Christian Higher Education Fund goal by seeking special pledges from its members on a two-year basis, preferably in connection with our annual OUR CHRISTIAN ENLISTMENT (Every Member Canvass) during the fall of 1959.

Report From Youth Council

June 20-27 the Joint National Youth Council convened at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. At this meeting four of the Southeast Convention's officers and their advisor, Reverend Annie Campbell, met with 219 PFers and 124 PYers.

This was the first joint meeting of the PFers and YFers which was an historic event in the union of the United Church of Christ.

National Council had one main task: to select the program emphases in each of the three commission areas of Faith, Action, and Fellowship for the next two years.

Faith Commission —

1. Personal Devotions
2. Science and Religion
3. Church History and Heritage
4. Meaning and purpose of Life

Action Commission —

1. Decisions for Peace
2. Racial and Cultural Problems
3. Middle East
4. Christian Citizenship

Fellowship Commission—

1. PF - YF Relations
2. Study and Practice of Christian Fellowship
3. Leadership Training
4. Boy and Girl Relations

There are programs to use as guides for these emphases in your local PF. A new song book has been prepared and it can be obtained from the Southeast Convention.

The statement of purpose we have had for the past few years has been readopted. However, the Fellowship statement was thought to be inadequate and for that reason another was suggested to be emphasized for the next two year. It reads as follows:

"To strengthen and enjoy Christian fellowship as we seek to exemplify God's love through sharing in experiences and concerns of others."

At the Council we also had the opportunity of going to various field day activities that were set up to understand the problems of our town. Also, there were leadership training classes in which we learned skills of leadership in various fields.

For field day I chose gangism because I felt that through it I could get

NATIONAL LAYMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUPPORTS TELEVISION PROJECT

The National Laymen's Fellowship has voted to accept a share in the financial support of the television series "Off to Adventure."

"Off to Adventure" is the first religious television program planned and produced especially for children. It has the kind of excitement children expect in television with a purposive emphasis on Christian world fellowship and understanding.

The series is produced by the Office of Communication, the United Church of Christ (Congregational Christian and Evangelical Reformed) in cooperation with the United Church of Canada.

This fifteen minute, once a week program is offered free to television stations with the provision that it be shown during children's viewing hours other than Sunday morning. It is available through the Broadcasting and Film Commission of the National Council of Churches, New York 1, New York.

The National Laymen's Fellowship has accepted a goal of \$25,000 for this project. The total cost of the production of one thirteen-week series is \$83,000.

The National Laymen's Fellowship has suggested a goal of \$300 for the Southeast Convention Laymen's Fellowship as its share in the project. Local groups will be hearing more about this in the future.

The suggestion has been made that offerings be received for this project of Laymen's Sunday, October 19th. Other plans will be developed and sent to the churches for use by their laymen.

a better general outline of the problems of teen agers. It was very successful.

For leadership training I chose group dynamics, for I felt that group handling is very important and very much needed. As a second class I took recreation because of being Fellowship Committee Chairman, I felt it necessary.

— Peter Sandford

Twelfth World Order And United Nations Seminar

For two and one-half days, one hundred men and women will meet in New York to ask what government, the United Nations, and the churches are doing for peace, freedom, security — and what they ought to be doing. Conducted by the Council for Christian Social Action of the United Church of Christ, the Seminar will bring experts from government, the United Nations, the churches, and citizens' organizations, with opportunity for questions and discussion as well as a tour through the United Nations building and a visit to its committee sessions.

The Seminar opens Tuesday, October 7 at 9:30 a. m. and closes Thursday noon, October 9. Tuesday and Thursday sessions will be held at the Carnegie Endowment International Center, United Nations Plaza at 46th St.; Wednesday, at the United Nations. The cost is \$6.50 for registration and the seminar dinner, plus transportation and lodging, the UN tour, and other meals.

Lodging for a limited number of registrants may be arranged at the Congregational Christian Service Center, 110 East 29th St., New York 16. To register or secure additional information, write to the Reverend Herman F. Reissig, Council for Christian Social Action, 289 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y.

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 28 - October 5: Christian Education Week

October 5: World Wide Communion Sunday

October 4-5: N. Alabama Association, Hackleburg, Fairview

October 6-7: Central Alabama Association, East Tallassee, First

October 8-9: S. Alabama-N. W. Florida Association, Headland, Blackwood

October 11-12: Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, Chattanooga

October 15-16: East Alabama Association — Wed: Mt. Zion, Thurs: Noon Day

October 17-18: Georgia-South Carolina Conference, Columbus, United

October 19: Laymen's Sunday

United Church Herald Due October 9 Issue

The October 9 issue marks the first appearance of THE UNITED CHURCH HERALD, the magazine for the United Church of Christ.

THE UNITED CHURCH HERALD is the consolidation of THE MESSENGER, the publication of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, and ADVANCE, the organ of the Congregational Christian Churches.

Current subscribers to each of these two magazines will receive THE UNITED CHURCH HERALD under their present subscriptions.

The decision to publish a single journal to articulate the message and mission of the United Church of Christ was reached by the General Council of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Pilgrim Press of the Congregational Christian Churches. This new arrangement will continue until specific action is taken by the United Church of Christ.

The present editors of the two magazines, Dr. Theodore C. Braun, of The Messenger, and Dr. Andrew Vance McCracken, of Advance, will serve as co-editors of THE UNITED CHURCH HERALD.

Mt. Lebanon Church Has Successful Revival

The annual revival services of the Mt. Lebanon Church, Steele, Alabama, closed on August 31st on a high note of success.

Thirty-one new members were received into the church as a result of the services. Four of the new members were received into the church by letter. Twenty-seven were received on profession of faith and were baptized at the services on Sunday, August 31st.

Mt. Lebanon has the distinction of being served by two pastors, Rev. Elmer Smith and Rev. Homer Barnes. The two pastors shared the responsibility of preaching during the services. Great interest was shown and the church was filled to overflowing for each service.

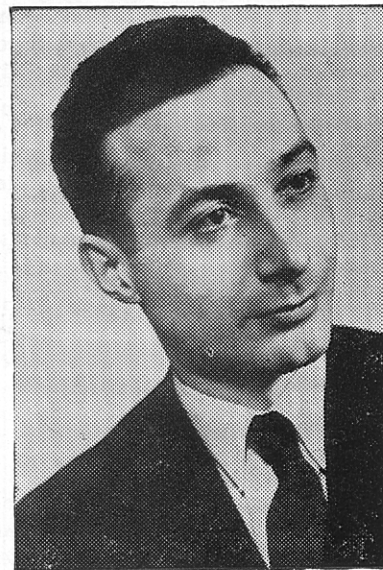
Rev. Theodore S. Horvath Will Address Meetings

Rev. Theodore S. Horvath, Associate Executive Secretary of the Missions Council of the Congregational Christian Churches, will speak at the conference and association meetings in October.

The Missions Council is the promotional and educational unit of the denomination's major agencies. Mr. Horvath directs the council's program of missionary education from his offices in Congregational House, the church's international headquarters in Boston.

Born in Lorain, Ohio, in 1919, Mr. Horvath was educated at Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, and Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, Rochester, New York. He also studied at Union Theological Seminary, New York City.

Mr. Horvath was ordained to the Christian ministry in South Norwalk, Conn., in 1949. He served as pastor of



REV. THEODORE S. HORVATH

First Congregational Church, East Bloomfield, New York, from 1948 to 1953, and was pastor of the Community Church, South Hempstead, L. I., New York, from 1953 until called to his present post with the Missions Council in March, 1957.

During his ministry in New York State, Mr. Horvath served for five years on the Executive Committee and for three years as Chairman of the Committee on Missions & Stewardship of the New York Congregational Conference. For three years he was also on the executive Committee of the National Committee on the Christian World Mission of the Congregational Christian Churches.

Mrs. Horvath is the former Geneva Irish of Portland, Me. The Horvaths have two children and make their home in Needham, Mass.

Mr. Horvath will present to the delegates from the churches various of the materials developed by the Missions Council to explain Our Christian World Mission to the churches. Of special interest will be audio-visual materials that have been used successfully. A primary concern of Mr. Horvath's is to see that the churches are aware of the wealth of material that is available to them through the Missions Council.

Attention, Pilgrim Fellowships:

Some one in your P. F. will be receiving a very important packet at the end of October. It will contain interesting program material which, if used, will be of great help to you when you start planning your programs for the year. It is for your benefit that the Pilgrim Fellowship Executive Committee is sending these programs to you.

If someone in your P. F. did not receive one of these packets last year, please send the name and address of your president to Miss Nancy Newberry, 1011 Juniper St., LaGrange, Ga. If you are the one who received the packet in your P. F., then it is your job to see that the material is used.

Nancy Newberry
Corresponding Secretary S. E. C.

If men would consider not so much wherein they differ as wherein they agree, there would be far less of uncharitableness and angry feeling in the world.

—Joseph Addison